

IN THE CLAIMS:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of harvesting usage data from a broadcast receiver configured to detect and store such usage data, comprising:

providing ~~(16, 18)~~ to said receiver a privacy policy identifying the usage data sought to be harvested and ~~an~~the intended use for ~~such~~ the usage data;

at said receiver determining ~~(22)~~ whether a received privacy policy is acceptable; and

if acceptable, at the receiver selecting ~~(30)~~ from the store the usage data identified in the privacy policy and transmitting ~~(28)~~ the same usage data to ~~the~~ a sender of the privacy policy.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the receiver presents a received ~~(20)~~ privacy policy to a user, and acceptance or otherwise of said policy is determined by user input ~~(24)~~.

3. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the receiver formats the received privacy policy prior to presentation to the user.

4. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the receiver stores privacy policy preference data for a user and, ~~based (26) on the same,~~ determines ~~(22)~~ automatically whether a received privacy policy is acceptable.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the step of determining acceptance ~~(22)~~ includes a process of negotiation ~~(38)~~ between the receiver of a user and the sender of the privacy policy.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a received privacy policy may be partly accepted (~~22.B~~), with only a part (~~30.B~~) of the requested usage data being transmitted (28) as a result.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claims 1, wherein the receiver removes (~~32~~) direct identifiers for the user from the usage data prior to transmitting (~~28~~) to the sender of the privacy policy.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claims 1, wherein the sender of the privacy policy provides (~~34~~) conditional access ~~broadcast~~ services and access thereto is conditional on user acceptance of the privacy policy and transmission of the usage data.

9. (Currently Amended) An aApparatus for harvesting of usage data comprising:

a broadcast receiver (~~50~~);

monitoring (~~54~~) and storage (~~56~~) ~~means~~ devices coupled with said broadcast receiver (~~50~~) and arranged to detect and store usage data relating to a users operation of said receiver;

an input (~~52~~) to receive a privacy policy identifying usage data sought to be harvested and the intended use for such the usage data;

control ~~means~~ device (~~58~~) coupled with said input (~~52~~) and said storage ~~means~~ device (~~56~~) and operable to determine whether a received privacy policy is acceptable; and

an output (~~60~~) connectable to a back channel to the a source of the privacy policy,

the control ~~means~~ device (~~58~~) being arranged, on determination that said received privacy policy is acceptable, to select from said storage ~~means~~ device (~~56~~) the usage data identified in the privacy policy and transmit the same usage data to the output.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The a~~The Apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, further comprising an output device (62) wherein the control ~~means~~ device (58) presents a received privacy policy to a user, and user input means (64) by operation of which a user determines acceptance or otherwise of said policy.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus~~ method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the control ~~means~~ device (58) is arranged to format the received privacy policy prior to presentation by the output device (62).

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The a~~The Apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the storage ~~means~~ device (56) holds privacy policy preference data for a user and, ~~based on the same~~, the control ~~means~~ device (58) determines automatically whether a received privacy policy is acceptable.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The a~~The Apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the control ~~means~~ device (58) is further operable to determine partial acceptance of a received privacy policy, and to select from said storage ~~means~~ device (56) only a part of the requested usage data.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The a~~The Apparatus as claimed in Claims 9, wherein the control ~~means~~ device (58) is arranged to remove direct identifiers for the user from the usage data prior to outputting.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The a~~The Apparatus as claimed in Claims 9, wherein the ~~broadcast~~ receiver (50) is a ~~broadcast~~ television receiver.